

Conference, Farmers' - 1918

LANE COLLEGE FARMERS' CONFERENCE.

LANE COLLEGE is a great school. The mere statement would amount to but very little were there not sufficient evidence to back up the truthfulness of it. The facts of the greatness of Lane College, its utility are admitted without argument. It is one of the bright stars that attract the gaze of the race and lends mightily to racial progress along many lines.

Lane College is made the center of many efforts aiming to better general conditions in this section of the country, and rendering effective service along particular lines of racial uplift. In the scope of its work no class of people are left out. It is a College, but those in charge of the work have a fine conception of what a college is for, and they are progressively faithful in their efforts to make the school a tremendous factor in the growth of the people along all worthy lines. That Lane College has, on the whole, perhaps, the ablest faculty among our schools has been claimed so often until people are beginning to believe it. And that gives President Lane and his faculty a challenge that can only be met by a program of service, vigorously executed, that answers the needs of the people directly affected by its labors.

One feature of the general program executed by the school is the Farmers' Conference which is held annually, usually in February, when farmers, teachers, preachers, doctors and other workers discuss subjects vital to every phase of

our racial life and struggle, and plans are formed for larger and better achievements. The editor remembers having attended a session of the Farmers' Conference at Lane

The mere state-



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Mrs. I. H. Anderson delivered an address on "Economy." Since then the Conference has had a wonderful growth and now people from many parts of the state, and often from other states, attend these meetings. The programs cover a wide range of subjects and able speakers are secured to interest and inform the hundreds of people who annually attend, sometimes overtaking the large hall which accommodates more than a thousand people. Some of the ablest speakers in the country of both races have, from time to time, appeared on the various programs.

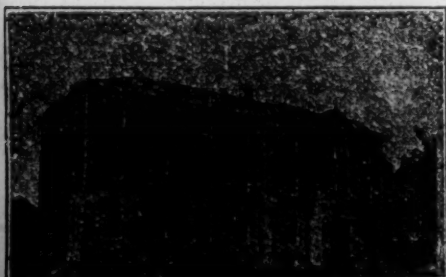
From these conferences people have gone with a new vision and purpose that have written larger success to the

GIRLS' DORMITORY

College in 1906, at that time in its experimental stage and very poorly attended. Less than two dozen persons attended the mass meeting that night when credit of our people. Resolutions, true to the highest principles and noblest ideals, have issued from these conferences, some of them have had wide publicity, lifting the people to higher planes and setting them to worthier endeavor, and at the same time giving Lane College a higher and better rating among the great educational lights of the country.

The next session of the Farmers' Conference will be held in the College Hall February 28 and Mar. 1. The President and Executive Committee have left nothing undone to make the occasion worthy of all the attention it may receive, and a real blessing to all who may attend.

PRESIDENT J. F. LANE



Conferences, Farmers' - 1918

COLORED FARMERS TO MEET THURSDAY

722 HENDERSON, N. C. LEAF.
JULY 9, 1918
Conference To be held At
Normal Institute Next
Week For One Day

The regular summer conference for colored farmers of Vance county is announced to be held at the Henderson Normal Institute Thursday of next week, and every colored farmer in the county is urged to attend. F. D. Wharton, colored farm demonstration agent, has issued an appeal to the men of his race to make a special effort to be present on this occasion. His call is as follows: "All colored farmers are requested to attend the Vance county negro farmers' conference which will be held at the Henderson Normal Institute, Thursday the 11th of this month. This is the regular summer meeting and it is hoped that every farmer who can will come out. We will have with us Prof. J. D. Wray, State Farm Makers' Club agent, and Prof. L. E. Hall, district agent. It is further hoped that we will have a speaker from the State health department. These are all colored workers and are able to give to the farmers very valuable information concerning every thing of interest to farmers.

"I am sure that the day spent here will be far more profitable to farmers than the day spent at work on the farm. No one should miss these lectures. I am certainly expecting to see at the meeting every man who is making a demonstration of any farm project, and all the boys and girls who belong to the different agricultural clubs. All members of the canning clubs and other home economics' clubs should be present. The county home demonstration agent and others will lecture to these clubs also.

"The meeting will begin at 9:30 a. m. (new time)."

COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

The Eighth Annual Community Conference of Colored Citizens was held in the Daytona Industrial School Auditorium, Thursday, May 3rd. There was a large crowd of

farmers, teachers, business men, housewives and others in attendance. The exhibits were many and of a great variety.

Col. Bingham, Mayor of Daytona, gave a very inspiring and instructive address to the Conference. He said that the exhibits were fine and he was surprised to know that the colored citizens were using their little plots to such an advantage, producing this splendid exhibition of vegetables, etc. "Food raising and food conservation," said the Mayor, "play an important part in helping win the war."

The manager of the Industrial School Farm, F. R. Taylor, reported that he raised 8,000 head of cabbages and 300 bushels of potatoes and also put on exhibition, okra, tomatoes, beans, strawberries, onions, etc.

A mammoth squash was raised by an elderly woman of the city. Corn, beets, beans, etc., were also raised on the truck farms.

Mrs. Ella Harreld, teacher of Domestic Science in the Industrial School, gave an interesting demonstration in cookery. Many new ideas were gained by the ladies. Mrs. Mabel J. Jones, teacher in Domestic art, instructed all present in the economy in dress.

There was an interesting exhibit from the Public School garden and workshops. Miss Victoria C. Booker, county demonstrator, told of her work in the establishment of pig clubs, soap making and canning. This was another source of interest to the people.

Many members of the Conference told how they had raised their products and gave splendid points to the audience.

Since the organization of this Conference eight years ago, by Mary McLeod Bethune, much interest has been shown by the people of the community. The condition of the streets is greatly improved as a result of the periodical "Clean-Up Weeks," and a decided general betterment is evidenced everywhere.

HOMEMAKES, WORKERS, AND FARMERS CONFERENCE

he
mills News
March 2, 1918

Interesting Declaration of Principles.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 23.

The Colored Homemakers, Workers and Farmers Conference of Kentucky, closed a two days session here today. The organization was affected through the efforts of Pres. G. P. Russell of the Kentucky Normal, Prof. J. H.

Garvin, Colored Federal Extension Worker for Kentucky, in co-operation with the citizens of Frankfort, Franklin county, and other counties throughout the State.

The meeting was attended by more than two hundred farmers and representatives of farmers, which convened in the Auditorium of the Institute.

The leading Negro farmers from more than twenty counties of the state were present, bringing exhibits of farm products produced by themselves during the past year. There was on display in the library of the Institute samples of corn, tobacco, wheat, potatoes, hemp, barley and other cereals, not to mention exhibits of the barn yard, eggs and chickens.

The Kentucky Normal and Industrial Institute Formers, Home Makers and Workers Conference, take pride in calling your attention to the real and evident achievement and progress of our people in all lines of endeavor at this time. They are not looking back to the depths from which they came, but upward from the heights already attained. Over a million of our people have left the extreme South and gone to the North to better their conditions, but not more than two thousand Kentuckians have contributed to this number. All of which speaks volumes for the opportunities offered in this state to our people for advancement, and a special part in the building up of a great commonwealth which shall give equal opportunities in the future for all of its citizens, black and white alike.

Therefore, whether in the fields of agriculture, in the mines, in the workshops or the trenches, we pledge ourselves to do our full measure, our full share of the work so needful for the successful accomplishment of the ends desired.

We say to our people in this state: Stay on the farm, stick closer to the soil, buy more houses, buy more land, make more comfortable and beautify your homes, and improve your land so that your children may be glad to stay on the farm and add to the peace and enjoyment thereof.

We advise that the farmers take advantage of the splendid opportunities they now have to produce and place upon the markets of this country, at the very highest prices in the history of America, the products which the world wants, needs and must have.

You must save your money, educate and prepare your children so that they may be able to take their places as

intelligent, patriotic, enthusiastic citizens with the workers and doers in the great reconstruction period which must and will come at the conclusion of this gigantic struggle for freedom and democracy.

The sessions were enlivened by instructive talks from Prof. J. H. Garvin, Prof. A. B. Burnett, Prof. of Agriculture at the Institution, and Prof. G. M. Campbell, State agent for colored farmers of Alabama. Prof. Campbell varied the program and led in the singing of the famous jubilee songs of the South, "Swing Low Sweet Chariot, I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray, When Death Comes Creeping at the Door, and other selections.

It was decided that the conference should be held annually at the Kentucky Normal at Frankfort, on Washington's birthday. Prof. G. P. Russell was elected president, and Mr. L. R. Diggs, attorney at law, secretary.

March 15, 1918
The Farmers' Institutes
The Second Annual Farmers' Institute for Queen Anne county was held at Centerville, Md., which was in every way a success and of special inspiration and worth to the large number of farmers and their wives from all parts of the county who were in attendance. The program arranged for all three of the sessions was helpful and practical, consisting of addresses by prominent speakers among whom were the State Supervisor of Colored Schools, Prof. Huffington, Prof. B. C. Jones, county agent for Queen Anne county; Miss A. B. Wright, supervisor of schools; Prof. L. Martin, first Negro demonstrator for the State; Miss Lucy E. Allen, food demonstrator; Dr. E. Jones, deputy State health officer, and J. C. Parks, principal of Centerville school.

Opportunity was given for discussion on Health Sanitation, Spring Cleaning Movement, Race Betterment, and hours for women and periods for inquiries were afforded. The institutes are the result of the efforts of the county supervisor of colored schools, and shows the interest that this supervisor is taking in the life of the community. It is gratifying to know that this is true not only of Queen Anne county, but as well as of other counties of the State, where the colored supervisor is taking in the life of the community that it is not only a duty and privilege to look after the schools of their counties, but to promote the interest and welfare of the communities where they labor; so that in numbers of the counties similar institutes under the guidance of these supervisors are being held, and other organizations and movements formed and inaugurated for race uplift and betterment. It is when all who are capable and in a position to lead in forward movements realize their opportunities and seize them to do their part, that the

greatest development and progress of the race will come.

WILL TEACH NEGROES DUTIES OF THE W

Brilliant Programme Arranged
for Conference Feb. 8
THIS WEEK
FEBRUARY 3, 1918

THRIFT THE WATCHWORD

List of Speakers for All-Day Meeting
at Avery Chapel Includes Prominent Persons of White and Colored Races—Teachers Co-operate.

The programme for the Shelby County conference of negroes, to be held at Avery Chapel A. M. E. Church Feb. 8, practically was completed yesterday by Miss Charl Williams, superintendent of county schools.

Appeal is made to negro farmers, teachers, preachers, business men and homemakers to attend the conference, which will last all day and evening, as it will be perhaps the most important gathering of negroes held in Shelby County for a generation.

Thrifty work among the negroes is being advanced with enthusiasm throughout the south and the coming conference is in line with the work of the government toward inculcating thrift throughout the nation to meet the added demands occasioned by the war.

Extensive preparations are being made throughout the county for the coming conference and prominent speakers of both races have consented to discuss the problems on the programme.

Programme Interesting One.

One hundred school children from the colored schools of the county, and the Kortrecht High School Brass Band will furnish music at all sessions of the conference.

The programme in full follows:

TEACHERS' SESSION—9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A. M.

Eight-minute talks:
"Opportunity of the Teacher During the War," Helen Smith Casey.
"The Teacher as a Community Worker," Iola W. Ellis.
"What a Community Expects of a Teacher," Rev. S. D. Bolton.
"Conservation of Materials and Clothes," Gertrude Johnson.
"Value of Food Demonstrations in Schools," Cora Taylor.

MORNING SESSION—10:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

Song.
Ten-minute talks.
"Purpose of Conference," Miss Charl Williams, county superintendent.
"How to Make the Best Use of the County Agent," H. S. Nichols.
"Agricultural Clubs in Schools," T. J. Johnson.
"Increased Production of Hogs," M. D. Brock.
"Increased Production of Poultry," J. M. Horne.
"The Necessity of Testing Corn and Cottonseed," H. M. Cottrell.
"A Garden in Every Home this Spring," W. H. Foote.
"Better Care of the Home," Miss Martha Thomas.
"Balanced Meals—Food and Health," Miss Cara Harris.
Twenty minutes for discussion, led by T. J. Johnson.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2 P.M.—4 P.M.

Song.
Ten-minute talks.
"Preacher's Responsibility to His Community in this War," Rev. T. O. Fuller.
"Preacher's Responsibility to His Community in this War," Dr. C. H. Williamson.
"Why Germany Has Been Able to Hold Out," C. J. Haase.
"Helping the Government Finance the War," Dr. W. T. Vernon.
"Thrift Stamps—A Great Opportunity and a National Duty," B. M. Roddy.
"Message from the City Board of Education," Mrs. Isaac Reese.
"Some Results of Co-operation from Farmers and Teachers," James Washington.
Twenty minutes for discussion, led by T. J. Johnson.

NIGHT SESSION—8 P.M.

Song.
"Causes of this War," Bolton Smith.
"Patriotism," Roscoe C. Simmons.
"A Practical Patriotic Religion," Bishop N. C. Cleaves.
"Some Lessons to be Learned from the War," Rev. Sutton E. Griggs.
"Duty of Every Individual in this War," Geo. R. James.

NEGRO FARMERS MEET

IN CUTHBERT NEXT WEEK

Cuthbert, Ga., February 19.—(Special.)—The third annual negro farmers' conference will be held at Payne college here Thursday and Friday of next week. The purpose of the conference is to encourage better farming and better health and educational facilities for colored farmers. There will be an exhibit of 200 home-cured hams and also of other home-grown products for which prizes have been offered. Much interest is felt in the conference, and there is every indication that it is to be a successful one.

WHAT NEGRO FARMERS ARE DOING IN THE SOUTH

TOLD AT INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

AT UTICA, MISS.

N Y C POST

JANUARY 17, 1918

Impression Made on White as Well as Colored Hearers by Address of Dr. Carver, of Tuskegee.

[Special Correspondence of The Evening Post.]

UTICA, Miss., January 11.—The eleventh annual farmers' conference of the Utica Normal and Industrial Institute convened at the Institution yesterday. There were about 2,500 farmers and leaders present. Among some of the more prominent were the Rev. Frank T. Lea, of Sandy Springs, Md.; Prof. George W. Carver, of Tuskegee Institute, Ala.; Judge B. F. Miller, of Hazlehurst, and the Supervisors of Copiah County, who attended in a body. Many educators were present from various parts of Mississippi, including Dr. William T. Holmes, of Tougaloo University; the Rev. J. B. Lehman, of Southern Christian Institute; Prof. L. J. Rowan, of A. and M. College, of Mississippi; Prof. J. H. Webber, of Yazoo City, and Prof. R. S. Grossley, of Meridian. It was in many respects the most noteworthy gathering

of educators and farmers that has ever met in the Institute Chapel.

Prof. William T. Holmes delivered an address on the "Changes in Negro Life since the Beginning of the War." President Lehman spoke on "The Value of the Negroes' Usefulness in Times of Stress." Dr. George W. Carver, director of agricultural research and investigation, Tuskegee Institute, held the interest of his audience for two hours with an address on the possibilities of the soy bean. The white people present, including Judge Miller, the oldest Judge of Mississippi, said it was the best address they had heard on an agricultural subject. As soon as the speaker was through, Judge Miller moved a rising vote of thanks, and there was much applause. As a result of the address, a movement has been started to get Dr. Carver before the State Legislature, which is in session at Jackson.

PRESIDENT HOLTZCLAW'S ADDRESS.

President Holtzclaw was reelected president of the Conference for another year. In his address of acceptance, he said, in part:

Nearly twelve years ago, feeling the need of some movement, some organization, that would in some way help and encourage the ordinary negro farmers in the State of Mississippi, I called together a few farmers in the vicinity of Utica and invited a few of the leaders of the race from various parts of the State to confer on some methods of bettering the condition of the negro farmers of this section of the country. Out of that little gathering has grown the Utica Negro Farmers' Conference. . . . It is noticeable that when these conferences began, twelve years ago, very few of the negro farmers in this section of the country were land-owners. The report of the Conference to-day is to the effect that more than 6,000 acres of land are owned by negro farmers in this locality. Here in the vicinity of the Institution thirty or more persons have purchased land within the past six years. Most of them are in full possession of this land—have it all paid for.

One of the first things this Conference undertook several years ago was to induce the farmers to change their methods of farming. At that time cotton was truly king and emperor. Only cotton was planted by the average farmer—all his meat and bread being produced in the more Northern States. It was thought, when these conferences began to advocate the diversification of crops that they were too radical. It is encouraging, therefore, that to-day the farmer who would plant only cotton would be considered a back number. There is a great diversification of crops everywhere and, while we do not claim credit for the accomplishment of these desired results we do feel that the influence of these conferences has been felt.

OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD.

The opportunities which present themselves to the negroes of the State of Mississippi have only been touched slightly, have scarcely begun to be grasped. There are thousands of acres of land for sale in this State, and even the humblest negro has a chance to own some of this land. The South differs in one important respect from other parts of the country in that almost any negro known in his community to be honest,

and possessing integrity can go to his local bank, or some local business man and secure funds with which to purchase a tract of land and to erect a home upon it. . . . It is getting high time that the negro farmer of the South was beginning to understand that he forms an important element of the population of the South, and the nation, and one-third of the population of the South. If the South does not make progress commensurate with its population the negro can never escape his share of the responsibility. However much energy the white man may display, whatever, may be his wealth, and however he may use it, so long as one-third of the population of this section is of the negro race, and so long as this one-third of the population is so largely agricultural, and so long, further, as the South is dependent upon agriculture more than anything else for its progress, it will be impossible for this section to measure arms with other sections until the negroes have come to recognize more fully their value as laborers, and have determined to do their full share to bring their section of the country to the front. If there ever was a time when the farmer of any race should recognize his importance it is at the present time, and especially is this true of the negro farmer.

The fact that this nation is at war with the great and powerful European nation ought to open our eyes. If we are to cope with the situation that confronts us, if we are to make the world safe for democracy, we must make our own country safe in the matter of farm products, in the matter of our food supplies and when our country is safe it means that all other countries with which we are allied will be safe also. Let us as farmers show our patriotism in the same way that we expect those young men to show it whom we have sent to the front.

NEGRO RESTLESSNESS.

During the past year or more it is said that from 700,000 to a million negroes have been leaving the South and going to the North. Many persons and organizations have been trying to find out the cause. Various reasons have been assigned, among them being the oppressions, lynchings, and various other things they have to suffer in the South. Some attribute the cause to one thing and others attribute it to another. Even better wages and living conditions came in for their share of the argument. But it seems to me that none of these things taken alone comes to the point, but all of them may contribute something to the cause of the negroes' going. In the last analysis, however, the negro is moving from one section of the country to another simply because he is sharing with the rest of the world, the restlessness which we see apparent on every hand. He wants some change, he wants to better conditions, wants to escape oppression in every sense of the word, but even this does not cover the ground. In this, he is simply doing what he did when he was set free fifty years ago. He then moved to the extent of his vision. Education has extended the limit of his vision and therefore, he moves farther. In my opinion, however, it is a lack of proper training that causes the movement. If his education was of the proper sort, if he could be taught that his best interests are right here on the soil, that in the final analysis the bulk of the race must work out their salvation on the soil, must face oppression and difficulties with fortitude, the possible future difficulties with courage. If this can be taught him, and if in addition to this he can be made a progressive and respectable citizen, in my opinion he

would see it useless to move from place to place. The southern States must take the matter in hand and so educate the negro that he will find it necessary to remain here.

But only a small proportion of the race is going to find its way out of the South. The great majority of the negroes are going to remain right here in the place of their birth among their friends, suffer whatever may come, have their ups and downs, and in the final analysis will continue to live side by side with their white neighbors.

I plead again to-day, as I have for years, for the influence of the white race in the matter of uplift of my people through education, and I call attention to the things that are now transpiring abroad as proof that the neglect of the white race to educate the negro population in the South will prove seriously detrimental in the end.

STATEMENT OF THE COMPANY.

The Conference unanimously adopted a statement which said in part:

We urge upon the members of our race here assembled the important fact that we cannot sit by and depend upon the white men of this State or any section of the country to push forward our education; we must take matters into our own hands, we must determine to uplift ourselves, we must devote a part of whatever the race possesses to the education of our youth. Deep down in our hearts we must determine that we will educate our children, and we must continue to make sacrifices to the end that this object may be accomplished. We can no more expect to get to Heaven on flowery beds of ease than the white man has been able to do it.

Then, too, we want to urge upon our people the vital necessity of continuing to buy land wherever possible, make an honest effort to pay for it, build a house and establish a home upon it, and in this way gradually intrench themselves in the respect and homage of the people of their community. No race can ever hope to play its part thoroughly in the midst of a great nation which does not display sufficient energy to establish itself firmly in little homes. Every man in this country should be a king. Every man who owns a home and presides properly over that home is a king, and the cares of that home are entrusted to his queen.

In this connection we would call upon our white friends everywhere to lend their aid and assistance to a struggling people, a people whose hearts are in the right place, a patriotic people, a people thoroughly willing to do more for their country than their previous opportunities and training permit them to do, a people representing a vast possibility needing only development. We submit in this connection that no people anywhere in history have proven themselves more thoroughly patriotic under similar circumstances, more dependable, more deserving of the best at the hands of their neighbors, than have the negroes of America. Such friendship, such adoration, such confidence should not be shaken by brutal forms of lawlessness which sometimes creeps out on the part of our white neighbors. It is the sense of your committee that it will redound to the everlasting interest and the good of the white race if their leaders would take into their own hands the matter of crushing out lynch law and all other forms of lawlessness in every part of the country. The negro's unparalleled loyalty to his country and to the white race should not continue to be subjected to such strains as lynchings entail.

771 Union Springs Ala. Herald
FEBRUARY 13 1918

NEGRO FARMERS

CONFERENCE

To the Colored Farmers of Bullock County:

Never before in the history of this county has there been more unrest among the people than there is today. It is due to the fact that the world is at war, which may mean not only unrest, but starvation for nations.

Some of the best white and black people of this county have come together and talked the matter over and have decided to call what is known as a Colored Farmers' Conference of Bullock County, to be held on Saturday Feb. 23rd at the Union Springs Normal School, at which time and place, talk the new conditions over face to face, that we may have a better understanding with reference to our common interests, and to cooperate and work out the problems of how to meet the difficulties which this world war has placed upon us.

We urge upon every colored person in Bullock county, in town and out of town, to be at this meeting, as it means much to us all, white and black. The subject for the day will be "What Can We do to Keep Starvation out of Our Homes and Firing Lines".

Plans have been made to serve a fine dinner to all who attend this conference. The white people of Bullock county have been asked by the committee to help us in the expense of the free dinner. We are very glad to say that out of the hundred or more that we have gone to see they have gladly consented not only to help us, not only in the way of food for the dinner, but will cooperate with us in every way possible to make the meeting a success.